

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

CLAIMS

1. (Original) A friction device for rolling up curtains and the like, including:
a tubular roller (1), on which a curtain (1a) is wound; support means (10) for rotatably
5 supporting said roller (1);
a threaded stem (2) supported inside said roller (1) in a way as to create an angular
displacement of said roller with respect to said threaded stem during rotation of said roller;
this device being characterized in that it further includes:
an operative body (3), situated slidingly inside the roller (1) and screw-fitted onto said stem
10 (2), said operative body (3) being linked to said roller (2) in relation to rotation so as to move
axially along said threaded stem (2) during the rotation of the roller due to unrolling and
rolling up of said curtain (1a) from a rolled up configuration (A) to be unrolled configuration
(B) and vice-versa;
first elastic means (4) and second elastic means (5) acting on said operating body (3) and in
15 opposition to one another, so as to produce a variable friction effect on said operating body
(3)
during motion of said curtain (1a) between said unrolled configuration (B) and rolled up
configuration (A), and vice-versa, such that the curtain can be driven in a substantially
balanced way during rolling up and/or unrolling; first stop means (40) and second stop means
20 (50) fastened to said threaded stem (2), and aimed at pressing respectively and first elastic
means (4) and second elastic means (5) , against corresponding first surface (3a) and second
surface (3b) of said operating body (3).
2. (Original) A device according to claim 1, characterized in that in said rolled up
configuration (A), said first elastic means (4) are at least partially compressed and second
25 elastic means (5) are at least partially released, while in said unrolled configuration (B), said

first elastic means (4) are at least partially released and second elastic means (5) are at least partially compressed.

3. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein at least one upper stop points (A*) of said curtain (1a) is defined at which said first elastic means (4) reach such a compression degree that said operative body is prevented from further moving towards said first elastic means.

4. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~2 or~~ 3, characterized in that at least one lower stop points (B*) of said curtain (1a) is defined at which said second elastic means (5) reach such a compression degree that said operative body is prevented from further moving towards said second elastic means.

5. (Original) A device according to claim 4, characterized in that said upper stop point (A*) and lower stop point (B*) of the curtain (1a) can be adjusted in relation to said first stop means (40) and second stop means (50).

6. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 4 ~~one of the claims from 4 to 5~~, characterized in that said upper stop point (A*) and lower stop point (B*) of said curtain (1a) can be adjusted in relation to the dimensions and/or the nature of said first elastic means (4) and second elastic means (5).

7. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims from 1 to 6~~, characterized in that said threaded stem (2) is supported in stationary configuration by said support means (10) such as to allow said roller (1) to rotate with respect to the threaded stem (2) during unrolling and/or rolling up of said curtain (1a).

8. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~one of the claims from 1 to 6~~, further including a speed reduction group (6), aimed at driving said threaded stem (2) into rotation with respect to said roller (1), by angular displacements reduced with respect to the latter, during unrolling and rolling up of curtain (1a).

9. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~one of the previous claims~~, characterized in that said operative body (3) is a cylinder, which features said first surface (3a) and second surface (3b) and which has means for prismatic coupling with roller (1).
10. (Original) A device according to claim 9, characterized in that said means for prismatic coupling include at least one tooth (30) made on said cylinder (3) and guided in a corresponding inner longitudinal groove made in the roller.
11. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 9 ~~or 10~~, characterized in that said means for prismatic coupling include a pair of teeth made on said cylinder (3) in diametrically opposite positions and guided in corresponding inner longitudinal grooves made in the roller (1).
12. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~one of the previous claims~~, characterized in that said first stop means (40) and second stop means (50) include respective nuts screwed to said threaded stem (2).
13. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~one of the previous claims~~, characterized in that said first elastic means (4) and second elastic means (5) are made of resilient material, and are freely fitted on said threaded stem (2), close to one another.
14. (Original) A device according to claim 13, characterized in that said first elastic means (41) and second elastic means (51) are either spheroid or ellipsoid blocks and are made of resilient material, having holes along a diametrical axis, through which said threaded stem (2) passes.
15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, characterized in that said resilient material is neoprene gum or any other kind of synthetic or natural material.
16. (Currently Amended) A device, according to claim 13 ~~any of the claims from 13 to 15~~, characterized in that each of first elastic means (41) and second elastic means (51) have different compression characteristics, due to the resilient material or different hardness.

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~any of the claims from 13 to 16~~, characterized in that each of said first elastic means (41) and second elastic means (51) have corresponding peripheral facings, which avoid interference with the inner surface of the roller (1).
- 5 18. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~any of the claims from 13 to 17~~, characterized in that each of said first elastic means (41) and second elastic means (51) have different diameter.